



June 2006

## E- Newsletter

### Welcome to Issue #7:

Inside Transportation News is a vehicle for sharing relevant information with transportation and planning professionals and other National Park Service partners.

### Len Bobinchock Receives Department of the Interior Award – Wanda Moran, National Park Service



Len Bobinchock, Deputy Superintendent of Acadia National Park, was recently presented with a [Meritorious Service Award](#) for his contributions to the agency. Among other accomplishments, Bobinchock led the development of the Island Explorer shuttle bus system that serves the Bar Harbor communities and Acadia National Park. Over 1.8 million riders have used the free buses, eliminating an estimated 663,000 vehicles and 42 tons of pollutants from the park. The Island Explorer transportation system has been recognized as a national model, receiving both the EPA Clean Air Excellence Award and the Federal Transit Administration's Outstanding Public Service Award in 2004. Bobinchock enlisted 15 partners to participate in the planning and implementation of the system.

### Transportation Planning and Operations Data – Katherine F. Turnbull, Texas Transportation Institute



The Transportation Research Board's Circular E- Co95, "[Operations Data for Planning Applications: Identifying Needs, Opportunities, and Best Practices](#)" summarizes a peer exchange held in Washington, DC on May 4, 2005. The goal of this meeting was to identify opportunities to improve the linkages between transportation planning and operations. The report includes a summary of responses from participants across the country about their experiences in using operations data in the transportation planning process.

## Animal-Vehicle Collisions and Habitat Connectivity – Western Transportation Institute

ANIMAL-VEHICLE COLLISIONS AND  
HABITAT CONNECTIVITY ALONG  
MONTANA HIGHWAY 83 IN THE SEELEY  
SWAN VALLEY, MONTANA: A  
RECONNAISSANCE

Montana Highway 83 is known for a high number of animal- vehicle collisions, mostly with white- tailed deer. Montana State University's Western Transportation Institute is developing an implementation plan to reduce collisions and improve habitat connectivity along this road. Their [phase 1 final report](#) identifies and ranks high- frequency zones for animal- vehicle collisions; road and landscape characteristics associated with the collisions and habitat

linkage zones; and documents additional research and resource needs. The next phases of the study will provide species- and site- specific mitigation strategies, and consensus building with natural resource management agencies and the local community. A [slide show](#) that summarizes the phase 1 findings is also available.

## Congestion Mitigation Toolbox – Federal Highway Administration



The Federal Highway Administration's "[Focus on Congestion](#)" website has recently been updated to emphasize solutions that reduce traffic congestion. Explore their [congestion mitigation toolbox](#) with links to programs and resources for mitigating recurring congestion (e.g., peak hour commuting- related congestion) and non- recurring congestion (e.g., weather or special event- related congestion).

## Transportation Design: Meeting Mobility Needs and Maintaining Water Quality - Carol A. Zimmerman, Battelle Memorial Institute



The Transportation Research Board Committees on Landscape and Environmental Design, Hydrology, Hydraulics and Water Quality, and Transportation Needs for National Parks and Public Lands are holding a [joint meeting](#) from July 31- August 2 in Tacoma, Washington. The agenda is designed to appeal to landscape architects, planners, design engineers, and community leaders involved in transportation design, planning,

and maintenance. You can [register online](#) to attend this conference.

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